

CONFIDENTIAL

6 March 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services Staff

SUBJECT : Request for Initiation of Task L under Contract RD-26  
with [REDACTED]  
(ED-104A, Portable Trench Digger, Electric)

25X1

1. Description of the Project

This is a program directed toward the design, development, and construction of a portable trench digger powered by an electric motor.

2. Purpose of the Project

A previous program led to the development of a gasoline-engine powered portable trench digger; however, due to the loud noise associated with the engine, its usefulness is limited. A feasibility study performed by the contractor indicated the possibility of using a light-weight  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hp electric motor for the power source. Satisfactory digging rates may be obtained at depths of 18 inches. To provide the electricity for the motor, a typical European car, such as a Volkswagen, would be modified to contain the necessary generating equipment. The principle advantage of the electric digger is that it would be essentially noiseless and allow operation in locations not currently possible.

3. Recommended Contractor

The recommended contractor for this project is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] This contractor has performed very satisfactory work on a similar project in the past and is fully aware of the problems involved in this program.

25X1  
25X1

4. Support Requirements

There are no support requirements with other Government agencies needed for this project. However, the program to be undertaken has been fully coordinated with the Audio Support Division.

5. Total Cost

The total cost for this 10-month program is \$25,015.00, including the fixed fee.

25X1

394  
830-812-411  
11/11/57

CONFIDENTIAL

41

6. Project Engineer

The project engineer for this program will be Room 210, [redacted]

25X1  
25X1

7. Security Information

Contract RD-26 is an Agency sterile contract, however Government interest may be shown. The project is unclassified per se. Agency interest in all work under the contract and task is classified Secret and may be divulged only on a need-to-know basis to appropriate security approved personnel.

[redacted]  
25X1

Chief

TSS/Engineering Division

DD/P/TSS/ED/ [redacted]

25X1

Distribution:

- Orig - ED-104A when ret'd from C/TSS
- 1 - BMI File
- 1 - ED Chrono